in the premature release of Naval Officers.

The Directorate of Ex-Servicemen Affairs, Naval Hqs. is not located in South Block.

Use of Indian satellite by IAF

811. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IAF is using Indian Satellites to keep a watch on all potentially hostile countries as reported in the Asian Age of 30th December, 1998; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Indian Space Programme is well developed. Its satellites photograph surface area. The data from these satellites are also being used for defence requirements. These satellites have cameras capable of panchromatic and multi-spectral photography. The resolution is 5.8M for panchromatic and 23.5M for multi-spectral camera. However, it would not be desirable to reveal specific details in the interest of security.

पाकिस्तान द्वारा गोलाबारी

812. श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:
प्रो॰ रामबक्ष सिंह वर्मा:

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान पाकिस्तान द्वारा कश्मीर के सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में अनेक बार गोलाबारी की गई;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस गोलाबारी से जान-माल की कितनी हानि हुई; और

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जॉर्ज फर्नांडिस): (क) से (ग) जम्मू-कश्मीर में भारत-पाक सीमा पर पाकिस्तानी सैनिकों द्वारा अकारण गोलीबारी की जाती रही है। वर्ष 1997 और 1998 के दौरान गोलीबारी की इन घटनाओं में सेना के 99 कार्मिक, सीमा सुरक्षा बल के 13 कार्मिक तथा 72 सिविलियन मारे गए और सेना के 408 कार्मिक, सीमा सुरक्षा बल के 59 कार्मिक तथा 204 सिविलियन जख्मी हुए।

हमारे सैनिकों द्वारा पाकिस्तानी सैनिकों की अकारण गोलीबारी का समुचित जवाब दिया जाता है और साथ ही इस बात का भी ध्यान रखा जाता है कि गोलीबारी की ये घटनाएं क्षेत्र विशेष तक सीमित रहें और इस जवाबी गोलीबारी में कोई सिविलियन हताहत न हो और हमारी ओर से की जाने वाली ये जवाबी कार्रवाईयां दण्डात्मक व प्रभावी साबित हों।

Modernisation of Police Forces of Insurgency affected States

813. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing any assistance to the insurgency affected States for modernising police forces; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) "Police" being a State subject as per the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to adequately equip their police forces. The Central Government however, supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing them financial assistance under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces. The amount released to the insurgency affected States in the North-East during 1997-98 and 1998-99 was Rs. 9.85 crores & Rs. 7.37 crores respectively.

Besides the assistance under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces, North-Eastern States were

provided vehicles, weapons and equipment worth Rs. 34.99 crores and Rs. 3.36 crores during 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively. The weapons included SLRs, carbines, pistols, etc. Further, an amount of Rs. 2.63 crores has been provided during 1998-99 to the State Government of Assam for bullet-proofing of vehicles.

The Central Government also reimburses security related expenditure to the North-Eastern States for tackling insurgency in the region. The amount reimbursed in this regard is Rs. 162.45 crores during the current year, i.e., 1998-99.

Register for Citizens/Non-Citizens in North-East

814. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to prepare a register for citizens and non-citizens in the North-Eastern States, in order to identify the foreign nationals living in the region, as suggested by the Governor of Assam in his recent report to the President of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of effective steps being taken by Government to curb influx of infiltrators?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) A scheme to issue Multi-purpose National Identity Cards to all citizens of 14 years and above is under consideration. The identity cards to citizens as well as non citizens will be issued on the basis of an inventory of citizens/non-citizens organised in a computer readable form. It will help in easy identification of persons to check illegal immigration and infiltration.

(c) Several measures have been taken to curb and prevent infiltration. These include, *inter alia,* raising of additional battalions of the Border Security Force; reducing gaps between the border outposts; increase in the number of outpost towers, intensification of patrolling along the border, both land and riverine; surveillance on the coastal areas; accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing.

Rising Crimes Against Women

815. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how Government plan to reduce the rising crimes against women in different parts of the country;

(b) what are the details of steps towards police sensitization in this regard; and

(c) what are the plans for equipping the police stations to deal with such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes, including those against women, is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been writing to the State Governments, from time to time, stressing upon them the need to take preventive and punitive measures in connection with crimes against women. These measures include, *inter alia,* setting up of women police stations, creation of women police cells in police stations, recruitment of women in police, identification of atrocity-prone areas, hearing of rape cases in courts presided over by lady judges as far as possible, sensitisation of government/semi-government/private organisations for prevention of sexual harassment of women at the place of their work, stern action against perpetrators of crimes